Title: Need to provide Central assistance to the Government of Orissa for providing relief to the people affected by drought in South Orissa. − Laid.

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (BERHAMPUR - ORISSA): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, through you I draw the kind attention of the Hon'ble Union, Agriculture Minister regarding the alarming drought situation in south Orissa, particularly in Ganjam and Gajapati districts. During this monsoon there has not been adequate rain in most of the parts of these two districts. The cultivators are even not able to put seeds in the fields till now. Paddy is the main crop of the area. There are also no adequate irrigation facilities. So, I request the Union Government through you Sir, to instruct the State Govt. to take immediate measures in helping the poor farmers by providing central assistance to meet the situation.

* Treated as laid on the Table.